GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4746
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
RAJIV AROGYASRI HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME
Gutha Shri Sukender Reddy

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made a request to Union Government for releasing financial assistance Rs. 307 crore out of which the Rs. 207 crores as Plann ing Commission grant and remaining balance of Rs. 100 crores as additional assistance for implementation of Rajiv Arogyasri Health Insurance Scheme for the benefit of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the request and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (c) : Yes. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a proposal for financial assistance of Rs. 307 crore for implementation of the Rajiv Aarogyasri Health Insurance Scheme (RAS) for the benefit of BPL families.

Planning Commission was of the view that the Rajiv Aarogyasri Scheme needed a comprehen sive review and evaluation by an independent organisation. Accordingly the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) had been entrusted with this task. The PHFI in its critical evaluation have not supported the adoption of the route of insurance for healthcare for BPL families. The Planning Commission is also not supportive of such a grant.

This Ministry is of the view that since Aarogyasri Scheme deals with tertiary care and is not in consonance with the objectives of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), which focuses on primary and secondary health care, the funding would not be possible from the NRHM. However, this Ministry does not have any objection to the scheme if the expen diture on it, is met through the State Government'